



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
**San Diego Public Library**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**ARTFUL CONVERSATIONS: THE ART OF BILL TRAYLOR**

*Director of Exhibitions and Chief Curator at Mingei International Museum to speak about the exhibition “Bill Traylor—Drawings from the Collections of the High Museum of Art and Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts”*

**SAN DIEGO** – Christine Knoke, Director of Exhibitions and Chief Curator at Mingei International Museum, will present the work of Depression-era artist Bill Traylor at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 2, 2013 in the third floor auditorium of the Central Library, located at 820 E St. in downtown San Diego. The latest in San Diego Public Library’s *Artful Conversations* series, Knoke will discuss Traylor’s career, and introduce pieces from the 60 rarely seen drawings now on view at Mingei International Museum. This event is free and open to the public.

*Bill Traylor—Drawings from the Collections of the High Museum of Art and Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts* presents works by one of the most highly esteemed artists from the American south. Bill Traylor, a self-taught artist from Montgomery, Alabama, produced more than 1,200 drawings in graphite, colored pencil, poster paints and crayon while in his eighties. He created a visual autobiography with his drawings by recording his memories and depicting observations of life in Montgomery. Many of the drawings were produced on shirt cardboard, cast-off signs, and other found objects with unusual shapes that influenced his whimsical designs. Traylor gave most of his work to another local artist, Charles Shannon, who reintroduced them to an enthusiastic public in the late 1970s. The exhibition is on view at Mingei International Museum from February 9, 2013 to May 12, 2013.

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Christine Knoke joined Mingei International Museum in June 2010, after nearly 15 years at the prestigious Norton Simon Museum in Pasadena, California, where she oversaw the Asian art collection and organized exhibition-related special events. A Los Angeles native, she holds a BA in Art History from UCLA and an MA in Art History and Museum Studies from USC. As Director of Exhibitions and Chief Curator at Mingei International Museum, Ms. Knoke oversees the exhibition, registration, and education departments.

For more information about the exhibition, visit <http://www.mingei.org/exhibitions/bill-traylor>. Learn about other events at the San Diego Public Library's Central Library and 35 branches, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials in the Library's catalog online at [www.sandiegolibrary.org](http://www.sandiegolibrary.org).

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